

35.G2699

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: Examiner: NYA  
TOSHIO KAMESHIMA ET AL. )  
: Group Art Unit: NYA  
Application No.: NYA )  
:   
Filed: Herewith )  
:   
For: AREA SENSOR, IMAGE )  
INPUT APPARATUS :  
HAVING THE SAME, AND )  
METHOD OF DRIVING THE :  
AREA SENSOR ) December 27, 2000

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 27-30 and 34 as follows:

27. (Amended) An area sensor according to [one of claims 1 to 26] claim 1, wherein said signal reading means comprises an amplifier IC having an amplifier provided individually for each data line, and an analog multiplexer; and an A/D converter.

28. (Amended) An area sensor according to [one of claims 1 to 26] claim 1, wherein said signal reading means comprises an amplifier IC having an amplifier provided individually for each data line, and an analog multiplexer; and an A/D converter; and a digital multiplexer.

29. (Amended) An area sensor according to [one of claims 27 and 28] claim 27, wherein said signal reading means comprises a plurality of said amplifier ICs, and the output of each amplifier IC can be selected and controlled in accordance with a select signal.

30. (Amended) An area sensor according to [one of claims 27 to 29] claim 27, wherein in said signal reading means, said amplifier IC has at least two analog outputs of the even-number group and the odd-number group.

34. (Amended) An area sensor according to [one of claims 32 and 33] claim 32, wherein the output signals of said digital multiplexer or the second analog multiplexer is controlled in such a manner as to be positionally continuous.

REMARKS

By this preliminary amendment Claims 27-30 and 34 have been amended so as not to be multiple dependent.

Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 25,823

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200